

HE RULED THE FAMILY.

A Case of Domestic Tyranny Which Interested a New Orleans Audience.

A Fussy Husband Makes a Show of Himself in a Public Place.

And It Was! All About a Little Beauty "Spot," to Which the Tyrant Objected.

A comic little incident occurred in the parlor of the Grand Opera house last week, says the New Orleans Times-Democrat. It was funny enough for outsiders, but at one time threatened to develop some rather distressing features for one of the persons involved. Just as the orchestra began tuning up for the overture, a couple appeared. The lady came first, young, pretty, and in every line of her well-bred face betraying resentment of her escort's manner. He, a big, smooth-faced, choleric-looking fellow, wore an intensely cocky air, coupled with the aggravating way some men have of steering women about as though they were half-witted. In two minutes and a half the spectators nearest discovered that their neighbors were husband and wife. The note of authority in his voice and inflection in the name "Fanny" clearly indicated a pressure of the matrimonial yoke.

The man began "fussing" at once. Passing into the row a fringe from her gown caught in the seat, and while jerking it loose a trade was delivered in an undertone on the "infernal folly" of women's clothes. Then she was forced to rise while he adjusted her wrap across the back of the chair, and stand a running comment at the same time on her utter lack of judgment in bringing such a frivolous style of shawl on a sharp evening.

After nagging and growling till his wife looked altogether disheartened, this comfortable individual turned his attention to the programme. He said the theatre was a "blasted bore," and he wished to leave he had not allowed himself to be deluded away from the club.

"But, Fred, dear," the long-suffering woman remonstrated, with a slight suspicion of sarcasm in her soft voice, "don't you remember how very many times you came last winter? I often wondered it didn't tire you more."

"What arrant nonsense you talk," her companion rejoined, "of course I came. Had it to do. Men in my line of business in town every other day, and if I hadn't treated them to the play I would have lost money right along."

She added something about the necessity of supper afterward in an interrogatory tone, and then, turning round through the glasses and pretended not to hear.

Quiet settled on the scene until a minute or more before the curtain rose, when in a suppressed but terrible voice he demanded: "Fanny! what in the name of thunder is that spot you've got on your face?"

"Spot!" returned persecuted Fanny. "I don't know what you are talking about. Why, nothing." All the while her cheeks were aflame with mingled shame and indignation, even to the tiny bit of court plaster placed coquettishly near her red under lip.

"You do!" said the tyrant; "that hideous black patch disfiguring your chin. Didn't I say I never would be seen with any woman guilty of such a vulgarity? It makes you look like a monkey. Take the end of your handkerchief and wipe it off."

"I shan't; so there!" returned the woman, who turned at last. "You have no right to order me in that way about something that doesn't in the least concern you. Suppose," waxing warmer, "I dared to abuse you about the way you carry your cane, or trim your moustache. You are always worrying me over some such trifles." A break indicating the close proximity of tears.

The despot looked his property over from head to foot with a withering stare, and then in unmistakable accents announced quietly but firmly that if she didn't do as he told her he would get right up and leave the theatre. "Oh, no, you won't," said hopeful Fanny; "that would make you conspicuous. Come, now, Fred, don't cut up so. Just let me do as I like and I shan't trouble you."

"Are you going to take that infernal abomination off your face? Yes or no, was his only answer."

"Well, if you want to know, I won't," the husband continued, while the men behind forgot all about audience, stage, play and everything else, so absorbed had they become in the exciting domestic drama at hand. "See here, Fanny, did you ever know me to fail when I swore to do a thing? I give you till I count five to get rid of that infernal thing. If you don't, I warn you I will get up, go straight home, and you can manage the best you know."

The wretched little woman drew her breath hard. Her face was a deep pink, and her eyes sparkled as she examined the big burly fellow's countenance to see if he could be in earnest. Every second seemed an hour to the participants and spectators, all recognizing it as the crucial test of the wife's future freedom. She evidently understood the full importance of her action. She wavered, lifted her handkerchief irresolutely, let it fall in her lap, looked again, and then, with one swift, angry movement, swept the bit of muslin across her mouth. He turned to regard his slave with triumph, but the glimpse of a crimson cheek and a very cold shoulder served him during the remainder of the evening.

A POLICY OF PEACE.

King Humbert, of Italy, on the Needs of His Kingdom.

Rome, Nov. 26.—The Italian parliament was opened to-day. Humbert, in his speech, alluded to the smallness of the deficit in the budget, and said the government's wise and equitable policy assured tranquility to Italy and guaranteed peace, which, thanks to the concert of the great powers, appears to be assured to Europe. This utterance was greeted with great applause. Continuing, the king said the questions which might disturb peace had not yet all been settled, and it was necessary therefore, without undue demands upon the budget, to continue to provide military and naval protection to Italian unity and independence. He expressed the hope that the armaments which all the powers were preparing would not be used. Italy, he said, would lay down arms in Africa when an international agreement should have been reached guaranteeing her the very considerable possessions she now had on that continent, and recognizing the wide sphere of her influence. He hoped that he would be enabled to promote humanity, which had been outraged by such barbarity. In conclusion King Humbert said: "I shall always pursue the work of civilization, from which all our advantages arise." The king was enthusiastically cheered on his way to and from parliament.

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THE MARKETS.

STOCKS.

New York, Nov. 26.—Bar silver 96 1/2. Copper—Quiet and firm; lake, \$21.33. Lead—Quiet and steady; domestic, \$2.80. Stocks were quiet to-day, and while the general list was moved back and forth within the narrowest limits, there were a few marked moves by the character it possessed. The most important changes at the close were Tennessee Coal, which is up 3/4, New England 2 1/4, and Deaver, Texas & Fort Worth, 1 1/4, while San Francisco preferred is off 3/4 and Jersey Central 1/4. Governments dull and steady.

Petroleum was active to-day. It advanced to 1.07 1/2 in the first hour, then renewed selling by Standard Oil brokers caused a sharp break to 1.04 1/2. Buying by local operators then rallied the market and it closed firm at 1.06 1/2. Government bonds, 4 1/2, 127 1/2, 104 1/2; Northern Pacific, 32 1/2; preferred, 100; Oregon Improvement, 43; Oregon Navigation, 100; Transcontinental, 20 1/2; Union Pacific, 69 1/2. Money on call easy at 10%; best loan at 4. Prime mercantile paper, 6 1/2%; sterling exchange, quiet, steady; sixty-day bills, \$4.83 1/4; demand, \$4.85.

CHICAGO CATTLE.

CHICAGO, Nov. 26.—Cattle—Receipts, 14,000; dull; 106 1/2c. lower; heaves, \$4.00; 5 1/2c. steers, \$2.00; 4 1/2c. stockers and feeders, \$1.60; 2 1/2c. Texas cattle, \$1.00; 2 1/2c. western range, \$2.75; 2 1/2c. Hogs—Receipts, 54,000; lower; mixed, \$3.50; 3 1/2c. heavy, \$3.50; 3 1/2c. light, \$3.50. Sheep—Receipts, 9,000; steady; natives, \$2.00; 5 1/2c. western, \$3.00; 4 1/2c. Texas, \$3.00; 4 1/2c.

CHICAGO PRODUCE.

CHICAGO, Nov. 26, 11 1/2 p. m.—Close—Wheat—Higher; Dec., 79 1/2; May, 84 1/2. Corn—Firm; Dec., 31 1/2; May, 33 1/2. Oats—Firm; Dec., 20 1/2; May, 22 1/2. Pork—Firm; Dec., 36 1/2; Jan., 39 1/2. Lard—Steady; Dec., 35 1/2; Jan., 36 1/2.

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